ADDRESS

OF THE

DEWAN OF MYSORE

TO THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD AT MYSORE,

on Tuesday, the 28th October 1890.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in laying before you to-day, by command of His Highness the Maharaja, statements of the Revenue and Expenditure of the State during the past official year, together with a few brief observations in explanation of the more important variations as compared with the previous year.

Our Receipts under all heads of income, excepting the Railway, have been as follows :—

	1888—89.	1889—90.
	Rs.	Rs.
Land Revenue	83,96,337	89,21,826
Excise	15,99,615	17,62,566
Forest	11,35,393	13,68,866
Stamps	5,55,746	5,92,847
Sayer	4,07,568	4,16,081
Mohatarfa	3,29,559	3,58,115
Law and Justice including Jail Receipts	64,698	73,541
Post Office	76,206	2,132
Registration	59,605	64,916
Amrut Mahal	49,803	39,164
Education	26,159	33,194
Salt	27,391	33,808
Public Works	20,150	15,792
Gold Mining	1,08,526	1,96,638
Medical	3,522	8,739
Scientific and other Minor Departments	6,842	13,568
Interest on arrears of Land Revenue	29,003	36,868
Profit or loss on Investment in Government Pro-Notes ...	5,498	720
Interest on Investment in Government Pro-Notes	1,81,449	2,25,265
Interest on Current Deposit, Madras Bank	51,153	51,818
Miscellaneous	85,815	77,819
Total.....	1,32,20,088	1,42,94,283

Our Expenditure under all heads (Railway excepted) has been as follows :—

A.

	1888—89.	1889—90.
	Rs.	Rs.
Subsidy	24,50,000	24,50,000
Civil List	13,00,000	13,00,000
Repayment of Famine Loan	1,99,404	...
Payment towards Railway Loans Redemption Fund	2,00,596	4,00,000
Interest on Local Railway Loan	97,986	1,11,907
Political pensions including allowances in lieu of Jahgir	1,01,622	1,00,640
Military Force	7,28,658	7,36,266
Total.....	50,78,266	50,98,813

		1888—89. Rs.	1889—90. Rs.
Administration and Public Departments		2,04,873	2,28,829
Land Revenue Charges.	Deputy Commissioners and Establishments	1,68,366	1,66,092
	Assistant Commissioners and Establishments	61,182	60,076
	Taluk Establishments	3,20,826	3,19,916
	Revenue Survey	1,73,538	1,86,654
	Inam Department	7,761	7,793
	Remuneration of Village Servants	4,20,964	5,53,803
	Other items	26,205	36,727
Excise		26,865	55,213
Forest		4,56,778	5,14,821
Stamps		21,545	21,197
Sayer		14,096	13,729
Stationery and Printing		73,702	79,284
Amrût Mahal		31,762	27,585
Scientific and other Minor Departments		51,603	76,556
	Total.....	20,60,066	23,48,275

C.

	1888—89. Rs.	1889.—90. Rs.
Law and Justice including Jails	7,49,895	7,55,369
Police	5,96,034	6,22,801
Education	1,80,920	2,61,770
Muzaraya	2,81,964	2,78,663
Medical	1,89,685	1,75,406
Superannuation pensions and gratuities	2,40,937	2,67,873
Public Works	19,82,076	21,91,404
Post Office	1,36,920	16,664
Registration	28,967	29,563
British Officers' furlough and absentee allowances, retiring gratuities, compensation allowances and leave and pensionary contributions	30,668	23,019
Interest on Mysore Savings Bank Deposits	52,919	57,50
Refunds	46,029	66,014
Purchase and Repair of tents	3,579	14,839
Miscellaneous	81,798	89,541
Total.....	46,02,391	48,50,429
Grand Total.....	1,17,40,723	1,22,97,517

Receipts.—It is satisfactory to note that our total income during the past year is an advance upon that of the previous year, by the large sum of about 10¾ lakhs.

Land Revenue.—To this gratifying result, almost every important item of Revenue has contributed, the most striking improvement having taken place under Land Revenue, from nearly 84 lakhs to about 89¼ lakhs. Of the total increase of

5½ lakhs under this head, about 3 lakhs may be attributed to a greater activity in the collection of the current year's Revenue demand ; Rs. 79,575 to the introduction of the Survey and Settlement into the Kolar and Seringapatam Taluks and 1½ lakhs to extension of cultivation in all parts of the Province, the aggregate area taken up newly for cultivation being over 1½ lakhs of acres. This large increase in the cultivated area was due to a favorable season, to the improvement of our Irrigation works and to the stimulus given to agriculture generally by the completion of the Mysore-Harihar Railway.

The Land Revenue Demand for the year stood at Rs. 85,25,000 as compared with Rs. 82,84,000 in the previous year and the uncollected balance (including previous years' arrears) was only about 8½ lakhs at the close of the year against 13 lakhs at the close of 1888—89.

Forest.—The next important increase has been under "Forests", from Rs. 11,35,393 to Rs. 13,68,866. Owing to a better market for sandal, we were able to realize from its sale the large revenue of Rs. 8,82,031, against only Rs. 5,97,970 in the previous year, and the sale of elephants caught in the recently established Kheddas brought a new income of Rs. 55,582. *Per contra*, there was a fall under "Timber" from Rs. 3,13,252 to Rs. 1,75,951, owing chiefly to the smaller quantity of sleepers supplied to the Railway. And with minor increases under "Fuel supplied to Railways" and miscellaneous receipts, the net increase under Forests amounted to Rs. 2,33,473.

Excise.—Excise has again risen. Under "Arrack," there was the largo increase of Rs. 1,59,748, notwithstanding our attempt to make the article more costly to the consumer by increasing the retail price from Rs. 5 to Rs. 5—5—0 per gallon 20° under proof, as explained to you in my Address of last year.

The quantity which was issued for consumption and upon which duty was levied during the year, was 3,03,000 gallons (exclusive of the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore) as against 2,75,000 in the previous year. The actual consumption was 2,96,831 gallons, being an increase of about 25,000 gallons as compared with 1888—89. This increase was not due to any new retail shops opened during the year. For, in the Shimoga District where there was an increased consumption of about 6,000 gallons, the principle increase was in the Taluks of Tirthahalli, Shimoga, Sagar, Shikarpur, Sorab and Honnali, in none of which, excepting the last named Taluk, was there any increase in the number of retail shops. In the Bangalore City, there was an increase of 1,772 gallons consumed, though no new retail shops had been opened. The Kadur District accounts for an increase of 3,875 gallons with the same number of shops as in the previous year, while the Mysore and Hassan Districts where the number of shops was reduced, show an increased consumption of 1,800 and 3,000 gallons respectively. Owing probably to the cessation of Railway works, there was a decrease of about 1,400 gallons in the Chitaldroog District, while in Tumkur, there was but a very trifling increase of 300 gallons. In Kolar, owing to the rising Gold-Mining industry, there was the large increased consumption of 5,400 gallons. Under such circumstances, it is reasonable to infer that the larger consumption of the past year was the result of an abundant harvest and the good wages commanded by labour of all kinds on our numerous Public Works and on the Gold Mines.

Under Toddy, there was a decrease of about Rs. 30,000, while the proceeds of the increased establishment-cess imposed last year show a corresponding increase.

Gold Mining.—The Royalty recovered from Gold Mines amounted to Rs. 1,96,638, being Rs. 88,112 more than in the previous year. The industry in Kolar shows signs of increasing prosperity, while operations in Haranhalli give promise of very good results in the near future.

Under "Stamps" and "Mohatarfa", there was the considerable increase of Rs. 37,000 and 28,000 respectively, while the income from interest on Investments and current Bank Deposits amounted to Rs. 2,77,000 against Rs. 2,38,000 in the previous year.

All other items of revenue generally show a small increase under each head, due doubtless to the exceptional prosperity of the past year.

Under "Post Office" which was managed by the Imperial Postal Department throughout the year, the State derived no income, except a few Miscellaneous Receipts amounting to about Rs. 2,000.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure under all heads (excepting the Railway) amounted to Rs. 1,22,97,517, being Rs. 5,56,794 more than in 1888—89. The principal items of increase are the following:—

Rs.	
1,32,000	Under "Remuneration of Village Servants," owing to the payment of previous years' arrears and to new sanctions for recently settled Taluks.
58,000	Under "Forests," owing to extension of Khedda operations and the strengthening of the subordinate establishment.
80,000	Under "Education," owing to the transfer, from Local Funds, of the cost of Taluk Vernacular education, and from the Bangalore City Municipality, of certain Educational grants-in-aid as explained by me last year.
2,09,000	Under "Public Works," on account of large important works which I shall fully explain hereafter.

The other items of increased expenditure call for no special remark.

The abolition of the Local Post Office, the gross expenditure on which in 1888—89 was Rs. 1,36,920, has resulted in a net saving under that head of Rs. 61,000 per annum on an average.

Railway Receipts and Expenditure.—Three-fourths of net Railway earnings credited to the State during the year amounted to Rs. 1,79,574, as compared with a sum of Rs. 6,98,391 paid by the State on account of interest on the Railway capital raised by the Southern Mahratta Railway Company in England. Thus the net payment during the year on account of the Mysore-Harihar Railway was Rs. 5,18,817. To this should be added Rs. 818 paid to the Southern Mahratta Railway Company in adjustment of certain old items and Rs. 1,541 spent upon the survey of the Hindupur line, thus making the net expenditure on account of Railways Rs. 5,21,176.

Including Railway earnings received, the total Revenue amounted to Rs. 1,44,73,857, and including the guaranteed Interest and other payments made on account of Railways, the total expenditure was Rs. 1,29,98,267. Thus the net surplus of the year was Rs. 14,75,590, which, added to the opening balance on 1st April 1889 (Rs. 77,35,834), gave a closing balance on 31st March 1890 of Rs. 92,11,424. Of this amount, Rs. 61,50,200 are now held in Government Securities, and in addition to it, we now have Rs. 6,18,859 to the credit of the Railway Loans Redemption Fund, the establishment of which was explained in my Address to you last year.

I may here add that our surplus last year would have been much larger but for the heavy payments—direct and indirect—which had to be made on account of the Railway whose net earnings give but a very inadequate return on our capital outlay and annual payments for interest and sinking fund. At the time of the transfer of the Railway to the Southern Mahratta Railway Company, it was calculated by the financial advisers of the British Government that, after the completion of the extension to Harihar, the Railway would give the State in the first year an income of 3 lakhs, rising by annual increments of ¼ lakh to 4½ lakhs in the 7th and subsequent years. But judging from present earnings, there is reason to apprehend that the anticipations of the forecast will not be realized for several years to come.

An examination of the figures I have already placed before you will show you how materially our available surplus is reduced by our present financial arrangements connected with the Railway.

Our payments have been :—

		Rs.
(*a*)	Towards the Railway Loan Redemption Fund ...	4,00,000
(*b*)	Interest on Mysore Railway Loan of 20 lakhs ...	1,11,907
(*c*)	Guaranteed Interest on English Railway Loan ...	6,98,391
(*d*)	Miscellaneous payments to Southern Mahratta Railway Company	818
	Total ...	12,11,116
Against this expenditure, our income was only		1,79,574
Thus giving under the Mysore-Harihar Railway, a net deficit of Rupees		10,31,542

Budget Estimates.—The Budget Estimates of receipts for the current year as revised amount to Rs. 1,39,35,000, against an actual income of Rs. 1,44,73,000 during the past year, as it has not been deemed prudent to base our calculations upon the maintenance of the exceptionally high figures attained by Land Revenue and sandal sales in that year. The Budget Estimates of expenditure have been framed very much on the lines of last year's actuals and they amount to Rs. 1,29,46,000. A substantial additional provision will, however, soon become necessary on account of the Hindupur Railway on which we expect to be able to begin work within the next few months.

Agriculture.—The past year's record of agriculture was one of general prosperity. The season was, on the whole, favorable and a good crop was harvested throughout the Province. Towards the end of the year, owing to an apprehended scarcity in some Districts of Madras, there was a brisk export of food grains at prices higher than the average.

Cattle generally were in good condition, though diseases among them, more or less severe, prevailed in various parts of the Province. We have at present no special agency to grapple with cattle disease in an epidemic form. The proposed Bactriological Laboratory at Poona will, it is hoped, enable the State to train special Officers and to supply the want which is now felt.

The silk industry which revived in this Province a few years ago shows signs of progress and continues to receive great impetus from the comparative immunity of the worms from disease and from the superior quality of the silk produced.

With a view to the wider spread of information about improved methods in agriculture, Government have it in contemplation to endow a larger number than hitherto of scholarships to be held in the Madras Agricultural College, the students

being selected from among *bonâ fide* land—owing classes of different Taluks, on the condition that, after completing their course of instruction, they carry on agriculture on their own lands and farms. By thus creating agricultural centres on improved principles in different parts, Government hope to bring about a gradual and steady permeation, through the community, of information respecting improved methods of agriculture and other industries connected with it. What is contemplated above is intended to be partly educational and partly practical; but it is hopeless to expect much from agriculture till the prices of agricultural produce are more remunerative than at present, or rather till the land available for cultivation is much less than at present, and the necessity arises for extracting more produce from the same land.

Industries.—It is, however, to indigenous industries that we must look for the growth of capital and wealth in our midst and for real progress in other directions. With the general poverty of the people on the one hand, and their growing intelligence on the other, our great want doubtless is the establishment of suitable industries on a scale calculated to afford a variety of remunerative occupations to large numbers and thus to obviate profitless competition within narrow spheres. Under such circumstances, it behoves the Government to do everything in its power not only to foster existing local industries but also to establish new ones wherever possible, and, recognizing the principle that a far more powerful agency in this matter than Government is the enterprise and intelligence of the people themselves, it has always been our policy to give every reasonable encouragement for the growth of new industries. The specially liberal terms accorded to Gold Mining at the first start and the help given to the Cotton and Woollen Mills at Bangalore were dictated by this policy. And, influenced by like considerations, His Highness' Government have, for some time past, been endeavouring to find means for opening up the Iron wealth of the Province. On the one hand, it is obvious that there is no industry that is likely to advance our material prosperity as effectually and as rapidly as that of Iron, while, on the other hand, rich iron ore abounds in various parts of the Province and lies unutilized on any remunerative scale, as the local manufacture is all carried on in small and insignificant works without the aid of machinery or those mordern appliances which help to turn out large quantities at a low cost. The result has been that the country is being flooded by Europe articles which have well nigh driven the local manufacture from the field. Under such circumstances, I believe you will be glad to hear that a native gentleman who has studied the subject for many years and who has visited most of the principal iron-producing countries of Europe, has offered to start Iron works in the Malvalli Taluk of the Mysore District, on an extensive scale and on the most improved principles, and has expressed his readiness to risk a large amount of capital and labour on the venture. A memo of the terms on which His Highness' Government propose to grant him permission to mine for iron has already been published, and we are now in correspondence with him as to the guarantee he is prepared to give for the early fulfilment of the object in view. In explanation of the more important items of the concession, I may observe that, at present, iron ore from Government lands is allowed free to all, and it is proposed to guarantee such freedom for 50 years to the new industry, without creating any monopoly of the article in its favor. There would also be a similar guarantee for 25 years against the imposition of export and import duties which do not a

present exist. The only other important concession relates to the supply of wood-fuel. For the first 10 years, it is proposed to give a supply of wood-fuel free of seigniorage and during the second and third decades, at Rupee 1 and Rs. 2 respectively per acre of fuel tract felled. The fellings will be restricted to tracts carefully selected so as to benefit the health of the neighbourhood and not to prejudice the climate and so situated as to the Railway and large centres of population that the fuel therefrom has no present market value. The fellings, moreover, will be confined to small detached blocks aggregating five square miles per annum, thus making impossible the clearing of any continuous large area, and even in such blocks, there will be left standing the more valuable timber trees of the reserved kind as well as all bearing fruit trees. A block once worked will not be allowed to be touched for 20 years, thus allowing ample time for regeneration by natural regrowth, which, in 15 to 20 years, will fully equal the original stock. It is moreover proposed to establish a plantation on the half a square mile to be clean-filled each year in special eligible situations, and valuable additions to our Forest resources will thus be made by yearly accretions of half a square mile of well-stocked plantation, carrying valuable wood (with an admixture of sandal), in quantity as much as is contained in 5, 10 or even more square miles of the present scrub.

Turning next to the money value of the fuel concession, I would observe that the jungles in question are not, like the Malnad Forests, covered with a dense vegetation but contain very inferior scrub, from each acre of which we may, on a very favorable computation, estimate a firewood supply of 5 or 6 cartloads. The seigniorage on this would be about Rs. 1,200 or 1,440 per square mile, or Rs. 6,000 or 7,200 on the whole area of 5 square miles to be allowed per annum. The fuel concession would thus amount to an annual remission of this sum for the first decade and half of it during the second, full rates being charged during the third. Against this concession, has to be set off the cost of clean-felling of half a square mile of jungle every year, which may be put down at 5 Rs. per acre or about 1,600 Rs. on half a square mile. The concession will thus be reduced to Rs. 4,400 or 5,600 per annum during the first decade and to Rs. 1,400 or 2,000 during the second. During the third ten years, it amounts to *nil* in favor of the concessionaire and Rs. 1,600 per annum in favor of the State. All the above calculation assumes that the fuel from the tract in question has a present marketable value, which, however, it does not, as a mattar of fact, now possess, and it can attain any possible value hereafter only by smelting operations near the place of growth conducted on a large scale, as the direct result of the concession itself. It is also important to bear in mind that we have provided that the fuel in question must all be used directly and exclusively on the new industry, and that therefore the quantity actually taken will be strictly proportionate to the extent of the Iron works actually carried on.

Taken as a whole, the terms we offer to the new industry are insignificant when compared with the encouragement given for similar industries by nations who now take a high rank in the world as manufacturers and who considered heavy protection duties not too high a price to pay for the fostering of new industries and have reaped their reward in the rapid development of their mineral wealth.

It must, however, be admitted that attempts elsewhere to establish an iron industry in India have failed from various causes and that there is considerable risk of similar failure in Mysore, involving the loss to the proposed concessionaire of an initial capital of between two and three lakhs of rupees and of his own labor for two

years. If, owing to any untoward cause, the industry be not established within two years, then, in that case, the entire concession would lapse, but if the venture is attended with success, as we hope it will be, there will then be a new era of industrial career for Mysore. Valuable direct benefits will accrue thereby to the people of this country, who now are compelled to use, for their numerous everyday requirements, the imported iron, which naturally costs much more than what it can be locally produced for. The industry is one giving employment to a much larger number, in proportion to the value of the product, than almost any other industry, and the wages paid for the large quantity of local labor which must necessarily be employed on the proposed Iron Works would be a substantial contribution to the national wealth, which, in the case of the imported article, is lost for ever. So far from injuring the local iron smelter, who is so fast disappearing owing to his inability to compete with the imported article, and who, at best, eks out a scanty subsistence by continuous hard work with his primitive methods of manufacture, the proposed Iron Works will soon convert him into a skilled and well-paid artisan. In short, it will be hardly possible to overstate the manifold advantages which a well-established and prosperous Iron Industry will confer on the country.

Gold Mining.—Of industries already established, Gold Mining in Kolar deserves foremost mention. It shows signs of increasing prosperity. During the year 1889, the total quantity of gold extracted may be estimated at the large sum of 40 lakhs of rupees. This satisfactory result has been attained only by hard work through a series of years and by the local expenditure of much capital. What was a waste a few years ago has now become inhabited towns and the immense impetus given to trade of all kinds and the rise of the wages of labor are patent to all. In 1889, the gold extracted by the Mysore Mine alone amounted to 49,238 oz. as compared with 19,090 oz. in the previous year. Urigam came next with 16,437 oz., as against 4,028 oz. in 1888, while Nundydroog produced only 6,129 oz. as compared with 6,916 oz. of the previous year. The five other mines which contributed small sums by way of royalty would all seem to be still in the course of development.

Cotton Mills.—Owing to an over-stocked market for yarn and the high price of cotton, the Bangalore Cotton Mills had not a very fortunate career, but the depression is expected to be but short-lived and the industry may, ere long, regain its prosperity, especially as the price of cotton has now a marked downward tendency.

Woollen Industry.—Experiments for improving the local breed of sheep by means of Australian rams continue to be carried on with decidedly satisfactory results, and, should we succeed in establishing a superior breed of sheep, the woollen industry will open a large field for local capital and enterprise.

Candles and Soaps from Vegetable oil.—It is gratifying to learn that Mr. Nagesh Rao, Amildar of Shikarpur, who obtained a silver medal at the Mysore Exhibition of 1888, has succeeded in bringing down machinery worked by hand-power for making candles from Dhupa oil, and that his soaps from cocoanut oil have already begun to find favor with the native public. It is understood that Mr. Nagesh Rao intends shortly to take out a patent for his method of extracting oil from Dhupa seeds, which abound largely in the Malnad of Shimoga and Kadur and on the Coast and which hitherto have not been turned to any useful account.

Forest.—The financial results of the Forest administration during the past year are most encouraging. Deducting all charges, the net income of the Department

was Rs. 8,66,478, for which we are mainly indebted to sandalwood. There was a good market for the article which enabled the Department to dispose of a large quantity on hand from the previous year. Sandalwood collection was, as a rule, restricted to decaying and dead trees, etc., the removal of ground-hidden roots also contributed as a measure for the increased income of the year. The quantity of sandalwood sold and the prices realized during the past three years have been as follows :—

	Quantity sold. Tons.	Price realized. Rs.
1887—88	2,261	6,81,840
1888—89.	1,832	5,93,038
1889—90	2,351	8,66,423

We have, as usual, been assiduous in adding to our sandal resources as well by conservancy as by means of new plantations.

The stunted teak in the forests of the Mysore District has, for some years past, been worked for Railway sleepers, and it is now proposed to supply sleepers to the Hindupur and Nanjangud extensions from the same source, supplemented, if found actually necessary, by similar wood obtained from the forests of Shimoga and Kadur.

The area brought under planting was more than 4 square miles, and new plantations continue to be opened along the Railway lines.

The practice of collecting Forest seigniorage on fuel and charcoal at the gates of Towns by the Municipal Octroi agency was found to be faulty and to have worked much hardship to the people. It was accordingly abolished and has been replaced by a more correct and sound system. All important fuel sources are being constituted into Fuel-Reserves and brought under regular conservancy, the fuel felled and charcoal burnt in them being subject to pre-payment of the prescribed rates. Raiyats holding land under Government and Chunam-kiln burners and Iron-smelters paying the Mohatarfa tax will, as hitherto, have free wood-fuel for their *bona fide* needs. Thus, it is only traders that will, in practice, pay any seigniorage, which is one of the most legitimate sources of Forest income.

Elephant Kheddas.—In the recently established Kheddas, a first catch of 51 elephants was made in July 1889, as I informed you last year. In November last, a second drive of elephants was conducted in honor of the visit of His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor. On this occasion, 37 elephants were caught, of which 25 were retained. Out of the first catch, 25 were sold at Nanjangud for Rs. 20,375 and out of the second catch, 27 were removed to Palghat and sold for Rs. 35,009. The total cash receipts (including price of tusks) amounted to Rs. 55,582, to which should be added Rs. 4,000, the value of four elephants presented to the Palace and to gentlemen that rendered valuable services at the time of capture. The total expenditure, from the very beginning to end of the past official year, was Rs. 1,11,644, including the price and cost of 12 Dacca *Kumki* elephants and of plant and stores on hand amounting in all to Rs. 34,000. Deducting this initial outlay on stock which is available for future operations, the net expenditure amounts to Rs. 77,644 which would have been still less but for the special arrangements that were made for the reception of His Royal Highness at the Kheddas. Some more trained elephants were recently brought from Burma for extending the operations to the Kakankote and

other forests infested by wild elephants. The services of Mr. Sanderson, Superintendent of Dacca Kheddas, have been kindly lent by the Government of India for a period of 5½ years, and we hope to be able to extend Khedda operations in due course to other parts of the Province.

Public Works.—Adverting now to the Public Works Department, the first class of works to claim attention is our Railways. In my address to you last year, I informed you that the Government of India had before them proposals for the extension of our Bangalore-Mysore line through the Taluks of Nanjangud and Gundlupet to the Wynad and that there was every probability of the short section to Nanjangud being undertaken at an early date. But some doubts regarding the best alignment for this section and the quantities and rates of the estimate framed by the Southern Mahratta Railway Company's Engineers, as compared with the estimate and alignment originally prepared by the Mysore Engineers, necessitated a fresh survey and estimate, which caused some delay in starting work. The question having been set at rest after a critical examination of the relative merits of the two alignments and a final decision having been come to as to utilizing the old Kabani road-bridge for the Railway crossing of that river, I am glad to say, operations were commenced in July last, and there is every prospect of the ancient town of Nanjangud being connected by Railway with our capital before the end of next year.

As regards the Bangalore-Hindupur line, which you may remember is proposed to be constructed by our own Engineer establishment out of State Funds, the survey, levels and estimates have been fully prepared and we hope to be able to begin actual work within the next few months, the project having already received the general sanction of His Excellency the Viceroy. I may here inform you that the estimate works out to 29 lakhs in round numbers, or at the rate of Rs. 56,000 per mile. But the Ghat portion of the Railway, about 10 miles in length, is a formidable break in what would otherwise be a comparatively easy and economical line. A little way beyond Dodballapur, the Railway has to descend from the plateau to the plains, 10 miles off, across very broken ground, involving a continuous series of difficult curves, high embankments, and deep cutting in exceptionally hard ground, and this very expensive work necessarily enhances the average rate for the 51½ miles of otherwise simple line. For the 10 miles of Ghat, the estimate is Rs. 86,797 per mile and for the remainder, only Rs. 48,265 inclusive of Rolling Stock.

To supervise this extension, the Government of India have kindly placed at our disposal the services of a trained Railway Engineer, and one who has fortunately already had ample experience of Mysore work. For this purpose, there was absolutely no officer to spare from our rather limited normal local staff of Engineers.

The primary object of the Hindupur extension is Famine-protection. No part of the country suffered more severely during the calamity of 1877—78 than the district lying between Dodballapur and our northern frontier, and in considering the conflicting claims of different parts of the Province to Railway service, this all important fact induced the Government to give priority to a line in the direction of Goribidnur and thence to Hindupur. But, apart from this consideration, there is every promise of the line, when linked on to the Madras system *viâ* Dharmavaram and Guntakal, as it must eventually be, paying in the course of a very few years a reasonable rate of interest on the outlay.

Ordinary Public Works.—I will now turn to our ordinary Public Works operations, and you will, I am sure, be satisfied to hear that during the year ending 31st March last, the outlay on roads, tanks, channels and improvements of all sorts, reached the handsome figure of 29 lakhs in round numbers. Of this amount, 24 lakhs approximately were from Provincial Funds, 4¼ lakhs from District Funds, inclusive of Local Funds General, and ¼ lakh from Palace Funds on account of improvements to His Highness the Maharaja's Palace at Bangalore. Distributed over the several heads of service, the outlay was as follows:—

	Rs.
Military buildings	40,000
Civil buildings	2,88,000
Communications, including bridges ...	18,93,000
Irrigation works	10,37,000
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	1,30,000
Tools and Plant...	27,000
Establishment	4,78,000
Railway survey...	2,000
Total.....	29,00,000

Setting aside the usual necessary annual outlay on the maintenance of roads, irrigation and ordinary minor works, this expenditure was mainly incurred on works comprised in the Forecast Programme which I laid before you at our last meeting. That programme has, in fact, been, and will continue to be, with occasional modifications which cannot always be avoided, the basis of our Public Works Budget and expenditure. Amongst the irrigation works therein enumerated, I am glad to say that such large works as the Rampur channel and the Ramasamudram channel extension have since been practically completed, whilst projects have been finished and work actually started on the important Hulhalli channel and Sriramadevara North channel extension.

Among other irrigation works in progress, I may mention the Rekkalgere in the Challakere Taluk, the Solur and Saulanga in Shimoga and the Potnagere in the Kadur District, as well as the extension of the important Cauvery and Hemavati channels—the Ramaswami, the Rajaparameswari and Kalhalli—the improvement of several old channels from the Yagachi and the Avati rivers and their tributaries, and the improvement of several ancient ruined tanks, notably the Maddur Sulikere, the Annainakatte, the Handanhalli and the Danavadi, with the construction of 4 entirely new large tanks or dams across the Pinakini, the Chitravati and the Papagni Rivers in the Kolar District and a tributary to the Haggri in the Tumkur District. The enlargement of numerous existing tanks was also in progress, the whole of the irrigation works of the year embracing an addition of some 35,000 acres to existing irrigation.

And here, I had better make special allusion to the largest of the Irrigation items of the Forecast Programme,—the Kalnathpur channel project. It is a project which has peculiar interest for the towns-people of Mysore and the raiyats of the surrounding Taluks. Surveys to a length of 16½ miles and an estimate to the amount of 17½ lakhs to irrigate 6,000 acres of rice land have been fully worked out, but whilst the merits of the scheme from the Engineer's point of view had to be recognized, the financial results proved for less promising than had been anticipated, whilst the possibly injurious sanitary effect on the population in the vicinity of Mysore

commended extreme caution on the part of Government before it committed itself definitely to the work. In this views the Members of His Highness' Council and the more experienced Officers of the Administration were invited to specially consider this project in all its bearings. Their views are now under consideration and it will shortly be decided whether this great project should be inaugurated at once or not. Before coming to a decision on the subject, as there must be many Mysore or Mysore Taluk Representatives here present, who must be acquainted with the circumstances and who, as land-owners, have personal practical experience of the results of irrigation on the health and wealth of the community, I shall be glad to learn whether they are adverse to, or in favor of, the Kalnathpur project, and on what definite grounds. It is one which cannot be too well ventilated, involving, as it does, enormous outlay and affecting large and important interests.

In connection with our Irrigation Forecast, I may mention that several works are materially affected by the rights claimed by the Madras Raiyats to the drainages of Mysore, which have hitherto passed unchecked or but partially checked, across our boundaries and have been utilized more or less for irrigation in the trans-frontier Collectorates. Should no reasonable limit to the extent of such claim be established, some of our promising tank projects will have perforce to be abandoned. This general question which has a most important bearing on our future Irrigation policy, has, I may had, been laid in full before the Government of India.

Not second to our Railways and Irrigation Works are our roads, provincial and local. Their improvement and extension continue to engage the attention of our Engineers. During the last year, the great bridges over the Tunga at Hariharpur and the Bhadra at Balehonnur made good progress and by next monsoon, it is confidently hoped that they will be opened to traffic and two great obstacles to our trade with the Western Coast removed for ever. I regret I cannot say as much in regard of the fine bridge at Belur which has been retarded by difficulties in the foundations not anticipated and by the labor difficulty.

Immediately these bridges are out of hand, it is proposed to make a beginning with the bridges across the Cauvery at Yedatore and the Hemavati at Narsipur— the most important items of our Roads Forecast Programme. It is our intention so to locate and design these bridges as to admit of their being used by the railway, which, in due course of time, will undoubtedly be undertaken to open up the great Cauvery and Hemavati delta.

Sanitation, Drainage and Water-supply to Towns—Finally, as regards that class of Public Works known as "Miscellaneous Public Improvements," I have to inform you that the outlay incurred during the past year was mainly on the Water-supply, drainage and sanitary improvements to the City of Mysore. An excellent and liberal water-supply throughout the City has been secured; Purnaiya's Nala, so prolific of disease, has been filled up; stagnant cess-pools and choked-up drains have been obliterated and over-crowded streets and lanes have been opened out. Sanitary improvements in other large towns engage our attention and the water-supply to the more important of them has been under investigation. In Shimoga, the Kumbargundi a dangerous nuisance of long standing, is being filled up and a suitable system of water-supply for the whole town we may look forward to in the near future. Projects for a pure and sufficient supply of water to the towns of Tumkur, Chikmagalur and Birur are now before Government and one for Kolar is to be looked for

shortly. Further investigation of the supply to the Petta of Bangalore is unavoidably postponed until the decision of the Government of India is known as regards the projects to be undertaken for the Cantonment.

Education.—Judged by the increase in the number of schools and pupils, the progress of education during the past year was most satisfactory. There were 1,432 Government schools with 55,190 pupils and 252 aided schools with 11,892 pupils, showing an increase over the previous year of 181 Government schools and 6,311 pupils in Government schools and of 13 aided schools and 931 pupils in aided schools. Besides the Government and aided schools, there were 1,248 unaided schools with 16,196 pupils. The total of all schools was 2,932 and of pupils 83,278, being 21·88 per cent of the male population and 2·34 per cent of the female population of the school-going age. The Maharani's Girls' School at Mysore continues to do excellent work in the difficult field of female education and to maintain its high reputation for popularity and efficiency.

Archæology.—During the past year, upwards of 1,200 inscriptions have been examined and copied *in situ*. Among the more interesting, were several grants of the Kadamba and Pombucha kings, and special mention may be made of a Ganga inscription now discovered of the time of Sripurusha or Prithivi Kongani, which yields the undoubted date, A. D. 750. A great step is thus gained in fixing the chronology of this important line of Jaina kings. Another important discovery was the identification of Sasipura or Sasikapura, from which the Hoysalas claimed to derive their origin, with Angadi in the Mudgere Taluk. In the Kolar District, many inscriptions were met with of the ancient Maha Bali or Bana, the Pailava or Nolamba, and the Chola kings; also one of a king named Vaidumba.

The volume of Sravana Balagula Inscriptions was completed and published. It contains many Jain inscriptions of great interest written by poets of repute. The volume of inscriptions of the Mysore District is in the Press.

A large number of Kannada manuscripts have been obtained and are being copied. Of standard Kannada works not before published, the printing is completed of the "Karnataka Sabdanusasana" of Bhattakalanka Deva and the "Vikramarjuna Vijaya" of Pampa.

Legislation.—In 1889—90, two Regulations received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja and were duly promulgated, namely:—

No. 1 of 1890, to amend the Municipal Regulations of 1871, and

No. 2 of 1890, to amend the Mysore Chief Court Regulation 1 of 1884.

The object of the latter was fully explained to you in my last year's Address, and in accordance with it, a District Court was lately established in Bangalore, and the original jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases, which the Chief Court had hitherto exercised over the Districts comprised in the Nundydroog Division was transferred to it. Arrangements have also been made for the new District Court relieving the heavily worked Bangalore Sub-Court of a portion of its work.

Rules under the Land Revenue Code Regulation IV of 1888 have been framed and published.

The following draft Regulations are now pending the approval of the Government of India :—

(*a*) Regulation relating to arms, ammunition and Military Stores. This is simply a reproduction of the Indian Arms Act XI of 1878.

(*b*) Regulation relating to Agricultural Improvement loans. This, with some modification, is a reproduction of Act XIX of 1883.

And (*c*) Regulation relating to measures of length, adopting the standard yard for British India as the legal standard measure of length in the Mysore State.

There are several measures at present engaging the attention of the Darbar in different stages of progress, the chief among which relate to—

(*a*.) Gold Mining Property Theft Prevention.
(*b*.) Companies.
(*c*.) Government Securities.
(*d*.) Forest.
(*e*.) Compulsory Vaccination.
(*f*.) Local Boards.
(*g*.) Minor Municipalities.
(*h*.) Police.
and (*i*) Civil Procedure Amendment.

And it is hoped that, in the course of the current year, most of these measures will be in a sufficiently advanced stage for publication in the local Gazette with the view of inviting public opinion thereon.

Malnad Garden Assessment.—An important question which engaged our attention during the past year was the condition of *supari* gardens in the Malnad. The exceptionally heavy land-assessment in addition to a Sayer duty, under which they labor, has been brought forward before this Assembly, year after year, by the Representatives of the Shimoga District. My own observation and study of the subject on the spot during last year's cold weather tour, have convinced me that the grievances of the garden-owners, chiefly in Sagar and the northern parts of Nagar, are not ill-founded. In this opinion, I am supported by the independent judgment of my able colleague Mr. P. Chentsal Rao, C. I. E., an acknowledged authority in revenue matters, who brings to the counsels of Mysore, his large and varied experience of revenue administration in the adjoining Districts of Madras. He was with me during my tour and our personal enquiry into the condition of the gardens and the circumstances of the owners have satisfied us that early relief in some form is much needed. We hope to be able to resume our further investigation of the subject in Tirthahalli and Koppa this cold weather.

In regard to the *supari* growers of Sagar and Nagar, it is evident that they suffer not only from a comparatively high land-assessment in addition to a *sayer* duty on the produce, but also from difficulty of procuring labor, from want of suitable markets within easy reach and from a peculiar kind of *rot* known as the *Koleroga* caused by excessive damp, and latterly, from the ravages of an insect known as *Bachchehula*, whose presence is popularly attributed to the encroachment of the jungle. The labor difficulty will, to some extent, be met by allowing *Kumri* within well-defined limits and chiefly on old clearings. Such a partial revival of *Kumri* is required also for the protection of the present cultivation and in the interests of the health and convenience of the cultivators and it will at once be carried out under

rules similar, as far as necessary, to those in force in the adjoining Madras District. We are also doing whatever is possible, by means of new local roads, to open out the western Malnad of Sagar, hitherto practically shut out from the rest of the Province and from the principal markets. A Ghat road *viâ* either Govardhanagiri or Heune will afford great facilities for transport of crops to the busy trading places near Gersoppa and will soon come under professional investigation. But all these measures can go but a short way towards affording substantial relief to the *supari* grower. What shape the relief should take or to what extent it is necessary to go are questions which will soon be solved on receipt of the report of the special officer to be at once deputed to complete our information on the subject. This much, however, may safely be now stated; that, but for the rise in the price of *Supari* in recent years, the assessment imposed, especially in Sagar, would have been insupportable and gardens would have gone out of cultivation even more largely than has been the case hitherto. It is the anxious desire of the Government to keep the thrifty Malnad raiyat, with his long inherited aptitude for *supari* cultivation, to his gardens and to afford him every encouragement for the extension of garden cultivation.

Insurance Scheme.—It may be interesting for you to know that His Highness' Government have now under consideration a system of Life Insurance for the special benefit of its servants. State insurance for Native lives was a subject which engaged the attention of the Government of India some years ago. The discussion which then ensued elicited a general concensus of opinion that the measure would be an undoubted boon to the community. But considerations, such as the difficulty of managing the business, the fear that the Native community might not avail themselves of its advantages as largely as was necessary to insure its success, appear to have prevailed in the end and the proposal therefore was not eventually carried out. Since then, some private Companies have extended their business so as to embrace the insurance of Native lives. But the people generally, and even that more select class who are Government servants, have been slow to avail themselves of the benefits thus offered, mainly from a want of confidence on their part in the permanent stability of such private Companies. Under such circumstances His Highness the Maharaja's Government consider it desirable to institute a system of insurance under State guarantee for the benefit of its own servants, *over and above the existing provision for pensions and gratuities under our Pension Code.* The system aims at offering a ready and safe investment for the small savings of the official class and at securing for them and their families a certain and substantial provision in the future, in return for small present payments spread over a series of years, which are not likely to be felt as at all burdensome. The Government would of course wish to make no profit by the business and will therefore be able to offer better terms than those of any existing private Company.

It must always be a matter of special interest to the Government that its officers should be placed beyond all temptation by enabling them to leave a fair competence to their families. It not unfrequently happens that an officer, through imprudence or premature death, leaves his family unprovided for. Influenced by such considerations, the Government deem it desirable to establish a system of Insurance of their lives by all public servants. The measure is calculated to benefit the public service materially, and at the same time, to improve its general tone and promote its

independence and purity of character. It is intended as a help to public servants on small salaries who are unable to save largely from their income and in principle therefore, there should be no exclusion of a public servant, however small his pay, from the benefits of the scheme. But considerations of practical convenience make it necessary to have a minimum limit for the first year or two on the understanding that it is to be lowered gradually and, if possible, finally abolished. On the other hand, persons drawing high salaries must be expected to provide suitably for their families and need not be included in the scheme, though in their case a maximum may well be prescribed for the premia payable by them and therefore also for the bonuses to which they may become entitled. It is proposed to begin with a minimum limit of salaries of Rs. 20 or 10 and a maximum one of Rs. 500.

The salient points of the proposed scheme are briefly as follows:—

(1) That every person who hereafter enters the service of Government on a salary which is not below a limit (to be now fixed tentatively at Rs. 10 or 20 per month) shall insure his life with the Government for a bonus which shall be payable to him on his attaining 55 years of age or to his family in the event of his dying before that age.

(2) That the premium shall be a fixed percentage (say 10 per cent on the monthly salary for the time being) to be deducted out of the official's monthly salary, the amount of the *bonus* payable to him being regulated by the premium paid according to a fixed scale, an addition to the *bonus* being allowed for increased premium paid on an increased salary.

(3) That the officials already in the service of Government shall be permitted to insure, provided their age does not exceed a fixed limit (say 45 years).

(4) That in order to avoid undue risks, a maximum be fixed for the monthly premium and for the *bonus*, by treating, for the purpose of the scheme, all salaries above Rs. 500 as those of Rs. 500.

(5) That a man retiring on medical or other grounds before the completion of 55 years be given the option,

(*a*) of continuing to pay his monthly premia and getting the full amount of *bonus* at due time; or

(*b*) of receiving an immediate reduced payment fixed according to a prescribed scale; or,

(*c*) of discontinuing further premia and receiving a policy for a smaller sum payable at the age of 55 or upon death, if earlier.

And (6) That a man dismissed for misconduct before the age of 55 shall be given a surrender-value according to a fixed scale.

A table has been constructed showing the bonuses payable for different ages for a given premium and statistics have been collected of the ages and salaries of all the officials under Government drawing Rs. 10 and above per mensem. The rules for the management of the business have also been drafted. There are over 3,400 Government officials on salaries of Rs. 10 and more who are under the age of 45 years, and if all of them are brought under the operation of the proposed scheme which is not to be expected, the premia now payable by them annually would amount

to Rs. 1,27,000, and the bonuses payable to them by Government on due dates in the future aggregate the sum of Rs. 23,00,000. Before embarking upon such a large undertaking, the Government are anxious to have the scheme thoroughly examined and so to frame it as, on the one hand, to involve no possible risk of future loss to the finances of the State, and on the other, to give to the officials intended to be benefited as large bonuses as possible. The investigation is now so far advanced that the Government hope to be able, ere long, to bring the scheme into operation on a sound and satisfactory basis. And in the meantime, they will thank you for any suggestions you may be able to offer on the subject.

Constitution of the Assembly.—Gentlemen.—Before concluding my Address, I wish to say a few words on the important subject of the constitution of this Assembly. Having its origin in the first year of His Highness the Maharaja's reign, it has had a most encouraging career during the past 9 years. At first, the Assembly was composed of leading Raiyats and Merchants of the Province, nominated by the Dewan and the local Deputy Commissioners after careful investigation. In 1887, we were able to provide that the agricultural classes, which constitute the most numerous and the most important section of the people, should be represented by persons possessing a certain prescribed property qualification and that the various Local Fund Boards, Municipalities and Public Associations should depute members to the Assembly from their respective bodies. In the following two years, we maintained proper Talukwar lists of qualified persons, and endeavoured so to regulate the selections as to give satisfaction to all classes as far as possible. These attempts at improving the constitution of the Assembly have so far been attended with success that His Highness' Government are now encouraged to take a further and important step towards securing a fuller and more satisfactory representation of every important interest in the country. The moderation, the intelligence and the practical good sense which have characterised your discussions in past years, the material help you have given the Government in the discussion of important stions and the sustained interest you have evinced in public affairs, have convinced Highness the Maharaja that the time has now come when the wealthier and the e enlightened classes may, with safety, be left themselves to choose the mems for this Assembly. In order to give due effect to these sentiments of His Highss the Maharaja, we have drawn up a set of draft rules to regulate the future constitution of this Assembly. A copy of these rules is now before you. You will observe therefrom that the property qualification for membership in the Assembly s so fixed as to embrace the largest land-holders and the leading merchants and raders, and that high education has been recognized as a qualification by itself. he property qualification, it will be noted, is high, being the payment of a land evenue of from Rs. 100 to 300, or of a mohatarfa tax of from Rs. 13 to 24, or the wnership of one or more Inam Villages with a Beriz of Rs. 500, but it cannot be garded as unreasonably high, as it is expected to give not less than 50 qualified ersons for each of our 66 Taluks on an average. All persons qualified by property education will be invited to meet and elect from among themselves, 2, 3 or 4 ersons according to a fixed scale, as Members of the Assembly for their respective aluks or for the City of Bangalore or Mysore, as the case may be. In addition to embers thus elected, the various Local Fund Boards, Municipalities and Public sociations will be asked to depute Members to the Assembly from among their

respective bodies. Thus constituted, the maximum number of the Members of the Assembly would be about 351. It would efficiently represent all interests in the country, and its suggestions and observations would command the consideration and respect which are due to the opinions of a responsible body of formally elected representatives of the people. It must, however, be admitted that the constitution now given does not ensure what can be regarded as a full popular representation. This can only be effected by making the number of electors fairly proportionate to the population. But there are numerous practical difficulties in the way of such a reform, which we are *perforce* compelled to leave for the future, contenting ourselves for the present with the cautious but highly desirable step we have now taken. And let me add that it is His Highness' sincere hope that the privilege he has now been pleased to grant will be exercised to the fullest extent and in the most beneficial manner possible, and that it will be so appreciated by all as to enable His Highness gradually to enlarge the circle of electors, so as to give wider effect to the principle of representation in the constitution of this Assembly.

MYSORE,
28th October 1890.

K. SHESHADRI IYER,
Dewan of Mysore.